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31. The perforated plate according to claim 24, wherein the means is linked to a transmitter and receiver system in bi-directional fashion.
  32. The perforated plate according to claim 24, wherein the means is a sensor chip.
  33. A grinding machine, preferably a meat grinder, displaying a perforated plate according to claim 24.
  34. The grinding machine according to claim 33, wherein the perforated plate is located downstream of the last blade in the direction of material flow.
  35. A method for securing grinding machines with a perforated plate according to claim 24, wherein data for identifying the perforated plate located downstream of the last blade in the grinding machine in the direction of material flow are retrieved and a check is made of whether the respective perforated plate satisfies the respective safety standards, and in that the grinding machine can only be put into operation if the result of this check is positive.
  36. The method according to claim 35, wherein the operating time and mechanical stress of the perforated plate are additionally retrieved and used to check its wear and in that the grinding machine cannot be started in the event of excessive wear.

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#### REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,  
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